

A M E N D M E N T S

In the Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A DNA sequence coding for hG-CSF, comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Previously Presented) A DNA sequence according to claim 1, wherein the sequence provides an expression level of G-CSF, of the total proteins after expression, of at least 50% in an expression system, as quantified by staining protein bands after separation by SDS-PAGE.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Previously Presented) An expression plasmid, wherein the plasmid comprises a DNA sequence according to claim 1 and a plasmid vector.
7. (Canceled)
8. (Previously presented) An expression plasmid according to claim 6, wherein the plasmid vector comprises a T7 promoter sequence.
9. (Previously presented) An expression plasmid according to claim 6, wherein the plasmid vector is selected from the group of pET vectors.
10. (Previously Presented) An expression plasmid according to claim 6, wherein the plasmid vector further comprises a resistance gene selected from the group consisting of an ampicillin resistance gene and a kanamycin resistance gene.

11. (Previously Presented) An expression system for the expression of a DNA sequence coding for hG-CSF wherein the sequence comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, and wherein the system comprises the expression plasmid according to claim 6 and a production strain of *E. coli*.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) An expression system according to claim 11, wherein the production strain is *E. coli* BL21 (DE3).

14. (Previously Presented) An expression system according to claim 13, wherein the expression system is substantially free of an antibiotic.

15-19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) A process for the expression of hG-CSF, comprising expressing in *E. coli* a DNA sequence according to the expression plasmid of claim 6.

21. (Previously Presented) A process for expression of hG-CSF according to claim 20, wherein IPTG is used for induction at a concentration in the range of about 0.1 mM to about 1 mM.

22. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 20, which comprises a fermentation step performed at a temperature of about 20°C to 30°C.

23-24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 20, wherein the hG-CSF is in inclusion bodies.

26. (Canceled)